



TOWN OF ROCKLAND

Board of Selectmen

Town Hall
242 Union Street
Rockland, Massachusetts 02370

Telephone: 781-871-1874
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Chairman:

Mary A. Parsons

Vice Chairman:

Louis U. Valanzola

Selectmen:

Lawrence J. Chaffee

James F. Simpson

Michael E. Zupkofska

Town Administrator:

Bradley A. Plante

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S OPEN SESSION held on Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at 7:00PM in the H. Bernard Monahan Memorial Room, Town Hall, 242 Union Street Rockland, Massachusetts 02370.

Present: Mrs. Parsons, Mr. Valanzola, Mr. Chaffee and Mr. Simpson (Mr. Zupkofska did not attend)

Anton Materna led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence was held for the following people: Jerome Harriman-BOH, George T. Joy-Selectmen, Frank Bono-Music Director and Ann Bois-Secretary at Esten School.

Presentation: From Veterans' Agent Anton Materna to John Paul Torchetti and Michael Anthony Torchetti for serving their country against the battle on terrorism.

Presentation: From Chief Sammon to Patrick McDonald to commend him on his actions at a fire before the Fire Department arrived. He received a "Grateful Appreciation Award" for saving the life of his cousin through his heroics. The BOS also presented Patrick McDonald a "Rockland's Best Award".

A. MINUTES – None

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Interim TA Discussion – John Clifford

Attorney John Clifford introduced himself to the BOS. BOS interviewed Attorney Clifford. Board decided to take a vote then draft an acceptance letter.

Motion: Mr. Simpson to hire John Clifford as Interim TA

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

Agenda to be taken out of order.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Transfer Common Victualler License – FOOK SING, LLC

Attorney for Fook Sing, LLC reviewed application.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve Common Victualler License for Fook Sing

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 4-0

2. 99 Restaurant – Change of Manager

New manager not present.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to table

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

3. Set date for Town Meeting & Open Warrant

Motion: Mr. Valanzola to set S/ATM Date as May 5, 2008

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 4-0

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to open warrant tonight and close on March 7, 2008

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Mr. Baker (Planning Board) asked for a different date for zoning changes. He needs 45 days for changes. Discussed by BOS, indication that March 7th is enough time.

Vote: 4-0

4. Letter of Support – Home ADDI – Dan McArthur

Mr. McArthur explained the ADDI project and indicated they need a letter of support. Mrs. Parsons read letter from Neighborhood Housing Services regarding first time buyers.

Motion: Mr. Simpson to send letter of support

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

5. Library Trustees Joint Meeting/vacancy

Mrs. Looney called the meeting of the Library Trustees at 7:33PM. Mrs. Looney spoke on the vacancy available and introduced Dorothy McCauley.

Motion: Mrs. Looney that the BOS approve the appointment of Dorothy McCauley to the Library Trustees

Second: Mr. Tetzlaff

Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Mr. Chaffee that the BOS appoint Dorothy McCauley to the vacancy on the Library Trustees

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

Mrs. Looney adjourned the meeting of the Library Trustees at 7:38PM.

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)

2. Budget Discussion-Budget Codes A-Z excluding Police & Fire (EM & BOH requested next meeting.)

Mrs. Parsons requested break to hear from Mark Flaherty (Rent Control Board) requesting BOS appoint Rent Control Board as Special Municipal Employees and make them exempt from Conflict of Interest Statute Chapter 268 Sections A & B.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to declare the Rent Control Board as Special Municipal Employees

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

Motion: Mr. Simpson to make the Rent Control Board exempt from Chapter 268 Sections A&B

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 4-0

2. Budget Discussion (Continued)

Mr. Hart gave a brief overview.

A. Moderator

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve zero for Moderator

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)

B. Board of Selectmen

Motion: Mr. Valanzola to approve BOS @ \$134,677.88

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 4-0

Mr. Chaffee recommended highlighting TA Salary in red according to new Finance Committee guidelines.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to highlight TA Salary in red

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

C. Finance Committee

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve bottom line for FinCom @ \$101,000.00

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 2-2 Mrs. Parsons & Mr. Valanzola opposed

Motion: Mr. Valanzola to increase reserve fund to \$75,000 with bottom line for FinCom @ \$75,983.00

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 3-1 opposed not specified

D. Town Accountant

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve Town Account @ \$153,748.08

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

E. Assessor's

Motion: Mr. Valanzola to approve Assessor's @ \$146,995.85

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 4-0

F. Treasurer

Motion: Mr. Valanzola to approve Treasurer @ \$194,940.77

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 4-0

Mr. Chaffee suggested highlighting Tax Title in red.

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)

G. Town Collector

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve Town Collector @ \$118,526.84

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 3-1 (Opposed not specified)

Mr. Chaffee to red highlight clerical position.

H. Legal Services

Motion: Mr. Simpson to approve Legal @ \$100,000.00

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 4-0

I. Town Clerk

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve Town Clerk @ \$126,231.31

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

J. Town MTGS/Elections

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve \$30,000.00 for Town Meetings/Elections

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 3-1 (Opposed not specified)

K. Registrar of Voters

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve \$6,881.00 for Registrar

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 4-0

L. Planning Board

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve \$5,212.68 for Planning Board

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 4-0

M. Town Hall

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to level fund Town Hall at \$66,154.00

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 3-1 Mr. Valanzola opposed

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)

N. Town Reports

Motion: Mr. Valanzola to approve \$12,000.00 for Town Reports

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 4-0

O. Conservation Commission

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to level fund @ \$900.00

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

P. Zoning Board

Motion: Mr. Valanzola to approve \$4,915.00 for ZBA

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 4-0

S. Building Department

Motion: Mr. Valanzola to approve \$96,091.05 for Building

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 4-0

T. Gas Inspector

Motion: Mr. Valanzola to approve \$5,598.19 for Gas Inspector

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 4-0

U. Plumbing Inspector

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve \$8,805.71 for Plumbing Inspector

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

V. Weights/Measures

Motion: Mr. Valanzola to approve \$4,190.53 for Weights & Measures

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 4-0

W. Wiring Inspector

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve \$25,813.58 for Wiring Inspector

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)

Y. Tree Department

Motion: Mr. Valanzola to approve \$57,288.26 for Tree Department

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 4-0

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to schedule next budget hearing a week from tonight on Tuesday night @7:00PM for budget items only

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 4-0

D. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – None

E. CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Parsons read letter from Plymouth County Health Group re: change in administration. Mrs. Parsons also read agreement.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve adoption of MGL Chapter 32B to approve Steering Committee

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to appoint Karen Sepeck to Steering Committee with alternate being Selectman Simpson

Second: Mr. Valanzola

Vote: 4-0

F. OPEN FORUM

Mr. Valanzola asked Mr. Hart about Town Hall schedule to be posted on TH website. Mr. Hart informed the BOS that Police and Fire do not have access to this. Mr. Valanzola would like this to be posted for 8 weeks in advance. Mr. Hart is uncomfortable because if someone wanted to put something questionable through the budget they could look at his schedule and put it in while he was out. Mrs. Parsons asked about check this out with Department of Public Records.

Mr. Chaffee – Spoke on custodial issue with vacation coverage. Would like the TH to be covered as it was done in the past. We cannot leave building with no custodian for the week. Health Inspector also send a memo regarding this.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee that we either have Library Custodian or Assistant Treasurer cover custodial duties when Rick is on vacation.

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 4-0

Mr. Valanzola to remind people we have a couple of fundraisers coming up this weekend. The Lyons Club at the Banner on the 26th at 7:00PM and the K-9 fundraiser at the Cellar at 2:00PM and both are meat raffles.

Mr. Simpson spoke regarding the Energy Committee discovered that we used a million kilowatt hours additional this year and they are looking into it. He also wished Katherine Young a speedy recovery from her operation.

Mr. Valanzola reminded everyone about the Ethics Seminar next Monday at 2:00 and 7:00PM on the 28th. WRPS will be taping the 2:00PM session.

Chief Sammon gave an overview about a grant from Homeland Security re: firefighters saving firefighters.

Mrs. Parsons – Who is going to put together the proposal for the temporary TA? Mr. Valanzola and Mr. Simpson will take this on. On January 31 we are scheduled to go to small claims court for the Patriot Ledger advertisement is anyone available. Mr. Chaffee will be available.

Mr. Flanagan – Spoke on his views on tax rate, foreclosures, health care, stock market and Town departments. Asked BOS put in warrant to have a sum of money collected to increase the tax base earmarked to fight the deficit and the price of health care. BOS addressed his issues.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to adjourn to Executive Session (time not indicated)

Second: Mr. Simpson

Vote: 4-0 Mr. Chaffee-yes, Mr. Valanzola-yes, Mr. Simpson-yes and Mrs. Parsons-yes

Mr. James F. Simpson

Mr. Lawrence J. Chaffee